Message Text

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT ON SOVIET EMIGRATION AND

THE TRADE BILL

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF OCTOBER 21 WHITE HOUSE PRESS RELEASE REGARDING SOVIET EMIGRATION AND THE TRADE BILL: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEGIN TEXT THE PRESIDENT WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY ONE POINT

REGARDING ASSURANCES ON IMMIGRATION AS RELATED IN THE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS PUBLISHED BY SENATOR JACKSON ON OCTOBER 18, A POINT WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN WIDELY MISUNDERSTOOD.

ALL THE ASSURANCES WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE SOVIET UNION ARE CONTAINED IN THE LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO SENATOR JACKSON. THIS LETTER, AS I AM SURE YOU HAVE ALREADY NOTED, DOES NOT CONTAIN SPECIFIC NUMBERS. RATHER, IT SETS FORTH THE PRINCIPLES TO BE APPLIED IN HANDLING APPLICATIONS AND VISAS OF THOSE WISHING TO IMMIGRATE.

THE SENATOR, IN HIS REPLY TO THE LETTER OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, SET FORTH CERTAIN GUIDELINES OR UNDERSTANDINGS WHICH HE PROPOSES TO APPLY IN THE RENEWAL WHEN THE PRESIDENT'S WAIVER AUTHORITY IS CONSIDERED BY THE CONGRESS. WITH RESPECT TO THESE GUIDELINES OR UNDERSTANDINGS IN THE SENATOR'S LETTER, THE ADMINISTRATION HAS AGREED ONLY THAT,

AS STATED IN THE SECRETARY'S LETTER, THEY "WILL BE AMONG CONSIDERATIONS TO BE APPLIED BY THE PRESIDENT" IN EXERCISING AUTHORITY PROVIDED FOR IN THE TRADE BILL. END TEXT.

- 2. PERTINENT PART OF SECRETARY'S LETTER TO SENATOR JACKSON REFERRED TO IN WHITE HOUSE RELEASE IS: QUOTE IT WILL BE OUR ASSUMPTION THAT WITH THE APPLICATION OF THE CRITERIA, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN THIS LETTER, THE RATE OF EMIGRATION FROM THE USSR WOULD BEGIN TO RISE PROMPTLY FROM THE 1973 LEVEL AND WOULD CONTINUE TO RISE TO CORRESPOND TO THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS. END QUOTE.
- 3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. IN DISCUSSING THIS MATTER, POSTS SHOULD DRAW ONLY UPON WHITE HOUSE RELEASE AND SECRETARY'S LETTER. REFERENCE SHOULD NOT BE MADE IN THIS CONTEXT TO PAST, PRESENT OR ANTICIPATED FUTURE LEVELS OF EMIGRATION FROM SOVIET UNION. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. INGERSOLL

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